

There are a number of major roads in the County that have widths of 16 and 18 feet. Standards established by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) set 20 feet as a minimum width with 24 feet as a preferred width. However, because of the substantial cost of upgrading all secondary roads to AASHTO standards, narrower widths are tolerated depending upon traffic volumes. The roads on the thoroughfare plan that have inadequate width deficiencies are listed in Appendix A, Table A1. The minimum widths needed for upgrading them to AASHTO standards are given as recommended cross sections.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

The Traffic Engineering Branch of the North Carolina Department of Transportation releases an annual Accident Investigation list. The list is a statewide ranking of accident locations. The criteria for selection is based on locations having 25 or more accidents in the past three years, at least eight must occur in the most recent year. For Jackson County there were no rural intersections ranked on the 1992 list.

Listed in **Table 5** are intersections in rural Jackson County with five or more accidents occurring between January, 1990 through May, 1993.